GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COAL AND MINES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:416
ANSWERED ON:04.03.2002
MECHANISED MINING IN CIL
GUNIPATI RAMAIAH

Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a): the number of mines under Coal India Limited(CIL) and its subsidiary companies which have adopted mechanised mining operations as on date, subsidiary-wise;

(b): whether the Government propose to extend mechanised mining in all mines of CIL within a time-frame;

(c): if so, the details thereof; and

(d): if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR COAL & MINES (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD)

(a): The company wise number of underground mines in Coal India Ltd. where mechanised mining operationsare being undertaken are given below:-

Company	Intermediate Technology (SDL/LHD) Long Wall	Conventional Mechanised Long Wall	Powered Support UG mine	Total no. of mechanized in CIL.
ECL	25	1	1	27
BCCL	32	1	1	34
CCL	8	-	-	8
NCL(All OC mine)	-	-	-	-
WCL	37	-	-	37
SECL	60	-	3	63
MCL	6	-	-	6
NEC	-	-	-	-
TOTAL CIL	168	2	5	175

Opencast mines of CIL (179 in Nos. including those operating in mixed mines) are all mechanised.

(b) to (d): Mechanisation has been envisaged in all new projects − both underground and opencast being taken up in CIL.

Mechanisation has also been proposed in the following on-going underground mines during the Xth plan period.

Mechanisation	Mines	Likely time frame
Longwall Powered Support	Churcha(SECL)	By 2003-04
	Morpar(WCL)	By 2004-05
Continuous Miner	Chirmiri(SECL)	By 2001-02
	Vindhya(SECL)	By 2002-03
	Pinoura(SECL)	
	Tandsi(WCL)	
Shortwall mining under S&T	Balarampur(SECL)	By 2002-03

Intermediate Technology (SDH/LHD)	Proposed to be extended in existing underground mines in a phased manner replacing manual loading to increase production from this technology to 31.3 million tonnes by 2006-07 from the present level of about 24 million tonnes.	

Mechanisation in all the existing underground mines is not feasible because of prevailing unfavourable geo- mining conditions like steep inclination, thickness variation, cavability etc.